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1 June 1956

Executive Register
S-3380

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Mr. Lee Cherne, Meeting with the DCI on 31 May 1956

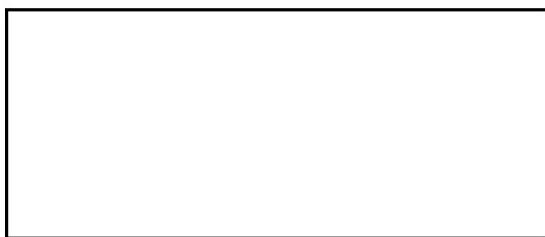
1. Mr. Lee Cherne is Executive Director, Research Institute of America, and an official of the International Rescue Committee. He was chairman of the "Dunavan Emergency Commission" which IRC activated to focus attention upon communist redefinition campaigns. The meeting with DCI was arranged at Mr. Cherne's request to report on "redefinition".

2. In line with his belief that emergency measures are needed to counter redefinition activities in the USA, Mr. Cherne reported that INC has set up a special 24-hour-a-day telephone service in the New York City area offering to counsel any refugees who fear repatriation activity. Mr. Cherne plans to extend this project into Connecticut with the cooperation of local police and civic groups.

3. Mr. Cherne reported great difficulty in soliciting funds for INC from private sources, due to public apathy and related to the growing debate. He advised that funds from projects under the State/U.S. Refugee Program do not cover INC countering the "redefinition" campaign in the U.S.A. In response to an observation by the DCI, Mr. Cherne indicated that Folstoy Foundation, like INC, may be confronted with the same problem: no established congregation of givers.

4. Mr. Cherne indicated hope for DCI interest in the following matters: (a) the entry into the USA of Czeslaw Milosz, a former Polish Cultural Attaché who defected in Paris several years ago and, according to Mr. Cherne, is now top "redefinition" target; (b) support for INC projects covering refugees in Vietnam, which are now under consideration in ICA and USIA; and (c) pressure upon Congress to obtain adoption of the President's recommended amendments to the McBarran-Walter Act.

5. The matters proposed by Mr. Cherne for the Director's attention, such as the funding for countering "redefinition" from the U.S.A. and action in the [redacted] appear to require special staff study before any action is taken. Copies of this memorandum are therefore made available to the appropriate Clandestine Services elements and the Legislative Liaison Officer for consideration.



Distribution:

Org - DCI 1 - C/SB
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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

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FROM:
PPC / [REDACTED]

TELEPHONE NO.

DATE

1 June 1956

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